

Takeshita named successor to Nakasone

TOKYO (AP) — Noboru Takeshita, leader of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party's (LDP) largest faction, will succeed Yasuhiro Nakasone as party president, and thus as Japan's prime minister, LDP officials announced early Tuesday. They said Mr. Nakasone, who is stepping down as LDP leader on Oct. 30 after five years in office, made the decision after he was given full authority late Monday to nominate his successor from among the three contenders — Mr. Takeshita, Shintaro Abe and Kiichi Miyazawa. Mr. Takeshita, 63, a former finance minister and now LDP secretary general, is to serve as LDP leader and prime minister for the next two years after the ruling conservative party confirms him as new party chief at a convention scheduled for Oct. 31. The Diet (Parliament) is meet in an extraordinary session, expected to be convened on Nov. 6, to elect him prime minister, a post of which he is assured because of the LDP's large majority.

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جريدة الأردنية تصدر عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية (الرأي)

Jordan renews support for Kuwait

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, on Monday voiced Jordan's concern over the consequences of the recent Iranian assault on Kuwait's territorial waters and land. During a telephone call with Kuwaiti Crown Prince and Prime Minister Sheikh Saad Al Abdallah Al Sabah, the Regent voiced Jordan's total support for Kuwait in defending its sovereignty and Arab identity. Prince Hassan reiterated to Sheikh Sabah Jordan's condemnation of the recent Iranian attempt, which aim at threatening the security and stability in the Arab Gulf. Sheikh Sabah praised Jordan for the Kingdom's sincere stand and constant work towards achieving pan-Arab solidarity under the leadership of His Majesty King Hussein. Kuwait was the target of several missile attacks by Iran in past months. The latest attacks came on Thursday and Friday in which a American-owned Liberian-flag tanker and a U.S.-flagged Kuwaiti tanker were hit.

King, Shultz discuss Mideast

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein Monday received U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz at his residence in London. During the meeting His Majesty and Mr. Shultz discussed latest developments in the Middle East and in the Gulf region. The meeting was attended by Prime Minister Zaid Rifai, Chief of the Royal Court Marwan Al Qasem and Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri.

Dajani meets British ministers

LONDON (Petra) — Interior Minister Rajai Dajani on Monday held talks with the British minister of state for home affairs, Timothy Renton. Means of strengthening bilateral cooperation in security was discussed between the two ministers. Mr. Dajani, started his week-long visit to Britain on Saturday. On Monday, Mr. Dajani also visited the general headquarters of Scotland Yard. Earlier in the day, Mr. Dajani was received by British Minister of State for Middle East Affairs David Miller for talks on the latest developments in the Middle East.

Parliamentary team returns

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan's parliamentary delegation to the 78th meeting of the International Parliamentary Union (IPU) in Bangkok returned home on Monday. Senator Hazem Nuseibeh headed the team, which comprised Parliament Secretary General Hani Kheir and Director of Parliamentary Affairs Zaid Zuraikat.

Assad meets Musavi

DAMASCUS (AP) — Syrian President Hafez Al Assad conferred Monday with visiting Iranian Prime Minister Hussein Musavi on the Gulf war and Iran-Syria relations, the official Syrian Arab News Agency (SANA) reported. Details of the talks, attended by Syrian Prime Minister Abdul Raouf Al Kasm and a high-level delegation accompanying Mr. Musavi, were not disclosed by Syrian sources.

Yugoslav leader collapses in assembly

BELGRADE (AP) — President Lazar Mojsov collapsed Monday in the national parliament and was carried from the assembly hall in his armchair, but later returned and resumed speaking. Mr. Mojsov, 67, was giving a keynote speech to parliament on Yugoslavia's protracted economic and social crisis when he turned pale and was carried out on doctor's orders. Thirty-five minutes later, the president reappeared and sat down to continue his speech, reading from a prepared text.

Northrop asked to pay \$31m to Khashoggi

WASHINGTON (R) — The U.S. supreme court let stand on Monday a ruling that the aerospace and defence contractor Northrop Corp must pay \$31 million to a company controlled by wealthy Saudi businessman Adnan Khashoggi.

Kuwait begins bombing exercises

KUWAIT (R) — Kuwait began live bombing exercises in the Gulf on Monday. A Kuwaiti Defence Ministry spokesman told Reuters Kuwaiti jets were to practise bombing naval targets with live ammunition off Kubbar Island, about 40 kilometres off its main oil port of Mina Al Ahmadi.

Swedish minister resigns over spy escape

STOCKHOLM (R) — Swedish Justice Minister Sten Wickbom resigned on Monday, saying he took full responsibility for a series of bungles which led to the escape of a Soviet spy from under the noses of the security services. The spy, Stig Bergling, slipped out of his wife's Stockholm flat after he was left unguarded during a 24-hour conjugal leave on Oct. 5. He has since disappeared without trace.

U.S. navy destroys two Iranian platforms; Tehran sees 'full-fledged war'

Reagan, announcing retaliation for missile attack on tanker in Kuwait, warns Iran of stronger action

Combined agency dispatches

BAHRAIN — U.S. warships on Monday destroyed two Iranian platforms in the Gulf in retaliation for last week's Iranian attack on a U.S.-flagged Kuwaiti tanker and Tehran declared that America was now involved in a "full-fledged war" with Iran and vowed a "crushing response."

In Washington, President Ronald Reagan described the attack on Iranian targets as a "prudent and restrained response" to Iranian attacks on non-belligerent shipping in the Gulf and warned Tehran of stronger action if the military escalation continued.

While the White House said the gunfire had wiped out "two platforms at one location," Iran named two platforms, some 32 kilometres apart, as having been attacked.

Before darkness fell, shipping executives in the Gulf said salvage tugs and other craft had reported columns of smoke rising

from the two offshore rigs, listed on maps as Rostam and Rakhs.

U.S. warships were warning other craft away from the area, they said.

The Iranian news agency (IRNA) quoted an "informed source" at the Iranian Oil Ministry as saying the Americans had struck the platforms, which it calls Resadat and Reshadat, 100 kilometres from coastal Lavan Island, the terminal point for underwater pipelines from the platforms.

The platforms, 120 to 150 kilometres east of the Qatar Peninsula, are among several permanent drilling rigs in the

central Gulf. Iran is known to have used offshore oil platforms for helicopter and armed speedboat attacks on commercial shipping.

In Washington, Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger said four U.S. warships destroyed the Rostam platform in retaliation for the attack on the U.S.-flagged Sea Isle City tanker in Kuwaiti territorial waters last Friday.

Mr. Weinberger said most of 20 to 30 Iranians on the platform abandoned it after receiving 20 minutes' notice from the U.S. warships, and fled in small boats.

Four destroyers, three of which had sailed into the Gulf from the Arabian Sea for the specific purpose, then obliterated the platform with 1,000 rounds of 5-inch gunfire.

"We consider this matter is now closed," Mr. Weinberger said in a nationally televised announcement.

"We do not seek further confrontation with Iran but will be prepared to meet any further military escalation by Iran with stronger retaliation," he added.

(Continued on page 3)

Klibi hopes summit will help contain Gulf war and boost Arab solidarity

TUNIS (Petra) — Arab League Secretary-General Chadli Klibi said here Monday that the extraordinary Arab summit scheduled to open in Amman on Nov. 8 would form an important step towards containing the Iran-Iraq war and bolstering Arab solidarity.

On the Arab-Israeli conflict, Mr. Klibi said that the proposed international peace conference on the Middle East should be attended by Security Council members in addition to all concerned parties.

Describing the situation in occupied Jerusalem as "a real human tragedy," he said that the Arab League was establishing a centre in the Holy City to help provide protection to the holy sites there.

Mr. Klibi said Israel's practices in Jerusalem and the occupied Arab territories contradict all principles and international laws. Jordan is taking part in the meetings of the Council of Arab Housing Ministers and is represented by Minister of Municipal Affairs.

He called on Iran to reconsider its stance and respond favourably to the calls of peace that emanated from the Arab League and regional and international organisations and to adhere to

the tenets and principles of Islam which calls for harmony among Muslims.

Mr. Klibi condemned recent Iranian missile attacks on ships in Kuwaiti waters and voiced the Arab World's solidarity with Kuwait.

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Kuwait reflags another oil tanker in Britain

KUWAIT (R) — Kuwait has put a second oil tanker under the British flag to qualify for Royal Navy protection against Iranian attacks in the Gulf and it plans to reflag a third one in Britain soon, shipping sources said on Monday.

They said the Kuwait Oil Tanker Company (KOTC) had recently re-registered the 27,841-tonne refined products carrier Ras Al Jilayah under Britain's red ensign as the Chihuan Castle.

A sister ship, the Ras Al Barshah, would be re-registered in Britain by the end of next month, the sources said.

In August, KOTC re-registered the 263,679-tonne crude oil carrier Al Faitha in Britain under the name Tonbridge.

All three ships will be owned by a company called Kent Petroleum, which Kuwait purchased from the British group, Ultramar Company, in April.

Kuwait first sought foreign pro-

sarily strain Royal Navy resources because the tankers would not all be in the Gulf at the same time.

The British-registered tanker Gentle Breeze was attacked by Iranian gunboats in the northern Gulf last month, but Britain said it had no plans to increase its naval presence.

KOTC Chairman and Managing Director Abdul Fattah Al Bader meanwhile told a Kuwaiti newspaper the emirate's oil exports had not been affected by the seven-year Iran-Iraq war.

"Kuwait has exploited all available opportunities to continue exporting its oil without any reduction," Al Anbaa quoted him as saying.

He said KOTC made profits of more than two million dinars (\$7 million) in the fiscal year ending last June, but predicted lower profits this year due to higher costs for chartering and operating vessels.

Britain's Royal Navy deploys a four-ship task force known as the Armilla Patrol in the region to accompany British merchant vessels as far north as Bahrain.

Shipping sources said the in-

crease in the number of British- flagged tankers would not neces-

sition for its oil tankers early this year when Iran stepped up attacks against shipping associated with the emirate in retaliation for its support for Iraq in the Gulf war.

The emirate has arranged to put 11 of its 22-strong tanker fleet under the Stars and Stripes. It has also chartered three Soviet tankers and four from the British colony of Gibraltar.

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UAE denounces ship attacks in Kuwait

ABU DHABI (R) — The United Arab Emirates (UAE), current chairman of the six-nation Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC), denounced on Sunday last week's missile attacks on tankers in Kuwaiti waters.

The Emirates News Agency (WAM) quoted a responsible Foreign Ministry source as saying the attacks "violate international law and constitute a serious escalation of the Iran-Iraq war."

Kuwait and U.S. officials blamed Tehran for the attacks in which two tankers were hit on Thursday and Friday, but the UAE statement did not mention Iran by name.

It said the incidents threatened the security and stability of all the member states of the GCC — Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Qatar, the UAE and Oman.

The statement said the UAE

fully supported Kuwait in defending its sovereignty and territorial waters, adding that the only way to safeguard the region was by ending the Gulf war on the basis of U.N. Security Council Resolution 598.

The GCC is an economic and defence grouping founded in 1981.

Meanwhile the American captain of the U.S.-flag tanker Sea Isle City, blinded when an Iranian missile slammed into its living quarters, is still under treatment at the intensive care unit of a Kuwaiti hospital, officials said.

Dr. Adnan Al Edan, deputy director of Al Adan Hospital, told Reuters on Sunday 50-year-old John Hunt's condition was stable and "hopefully in a couple of days he can move to the general surgery ward."

A total of 18 of the 28-man crew were injured but only 11 needed hospital treatment.

He said Hunt and a 35-year-old

Velayati arrives in Cuba

HAVANA (R) — Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati started a two-day official visit to Cuba which diplomatic sources said could be linked to the Non-Aligned Movement's efforts to mediate in the Gulf war.

State-run news agency Prensa Latina said Mr. Velayati was greeted by his Cuban counterpart Isidoro Malmierca and that Cuba, as a member of the Non-Aligned Movement, had taken part in several attempts to find a peaceful solution to the seven-year Iran-Iraq war.

Prensa Latina did not say if Mr. Velayati would see President Fidel Castro during his stay but the diplomatic sources said a meeting was likely.

Trial of Rome airport killings set for December

ROME (R) — The trial of Palestinian guerrilla leader Abu Nidal and two other Arabs for a Christmas 1985 attack at Rome airport in which 16 people, including three gunmen, died has been set for Dec. 15, judicial sources said on Monday.

The trial is scheduled to be held in a courtroom inside Rome's maximum security Rebibia Prison, the sources said.

They added that the three would face charges of massacre at the December trial and later would be among about a dozen Arab defendants at a second trial on charges of belonging to an armed band.

The gunmen killed 13 people before three of them were shot dead in a battle with Israeli Airline security agents and Italian police. Three people died in an attack at Vienna airport the same day.

Investigating Judge Rosario

20:00 Evening Show News Summary

21:00 Evening Show Contd. News Summary

22:00 Evening Show, Continued News Summary

23:00 Evening Show Continued News Summary

24:00 Close Down

BBC WORLD SERVICE

6.00, 7.00, 13.25 KHz

20:00 Newsdesk 07-30 Music in Old

Old England 07-45 Reflections 07-50

Financial News 08-00 World News

08-24 Hours: News Summary 08-30

News Notebook 08-45 Recording of the

Week 09-00 Newsdesk 09-30

News 10-00, 10-30, 11-00 World News

10-30 The Tradition Bearers 10-45

Network UK, 11-00 World News

11-00 Reflections 11-15 Tech Talk

12-00 Computer and Patrons 12-00

World News 12-00 British Press Review

12-15 Good Books 12-00 Financial

12-30, 13-00 News from the Americas

13-30, 14-00 News Summary 14-30

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Credibility at stake

THE ATTACK launched yesterday by the U.S. Navy against Iranian targets in the Gulf came as a limited, but necessary, response to the Iranian missile attack on a U.S.-flagged Kuwaiti tanker on Oct. 16. In view of Iran's deliberate provocation of the United States and its attacks on non-belligerent Arab neighbours, the Tehran leadership should have expected nothing less to happen in the way of mounted tension and confrontation.

The U.S.-Iranian confrontation in the Gulf was anticipated earlier this month when armed engagements took place between American warships and Iranian speedboats, some of which were caught sowing mines in international waters. It was only expected, then, that if Iran continued to threaten international navigation in Gulf waters and did not halt its provocation of U.S. forces as well as neighbouring Gulf states, such a retaliation as yesterday's would be the logical next step. Limited as yesterday's U.S. retaliation indeed was, we should not ignore the fact that the prospects for a larger conflict in the Gulf are greater than at any time before. Such a development, with all its unfavourable repercussions, including the internationalisation and expansion of the conflict, may prove to be the only choice available for a country like the United States, as well as other states seeking an end to the Gulf war in the background of Iran's intransigence. For in the area of diplomacy, no stone was left unturned to seek a peaceful end to the war. From the United Nations to the Organisation of Islamic Conference to the Non-Aligned Movement to bilateral mediation, diplomatic attempts to end the hostilities have proved to be no more than an exercise in futility.

Yesterday's American bombing of Iranian oil facilities might have aimed at demonstrating to the Iranians that U.S. patience with Iran was running out. But it also must have been a question of credibility for the Americans. Had the United States refrained from responding to Iranian provocations, it would have made a laughing stock of the whole American armada stationed in the Gulf. After all, what was the purpose of hoisting the American flag on Kuwaiti tankers? The scope and purview of the U.S. concern for the principle of freedom of navigation in the Gulf was put to a real test when the U.S.-flagged Kuwaiti tanker was attacked by an Iranian missile. The U.S. reaction means that Washington has decided not to let its credibility suffer any more losses. After Iran, it is difficult to see how Washington could afford it.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Congratulations

WE send our congratulations to the newly elected director general of UNESCO Mr. Fredrico Mayor Zaragoza and see in his election a new step on UNESCO's path towards providing services to mankind. We also respect the decision of the world community and the Afro-Asian group to elect Mr. Mayor following a bitter debate at UNESCO's meetings in Paris. The election of Mr. Mayor following the withdrawal of Dr. Mahtir M'bow from the contest and the acceptance of Mr. Mayor as new UNESCO director was an exercise of democracy within the UNESCO establishment, and a civilised behaviour on the part of the delegates which deserves due praise. We sincerely hope that UNESCO, which has been always neutral and objective in dealing with various issues, would continue to follow the same course of policy and to refuse all forms of blackmail that could be exercised against its executive board. Washington's declaration that despite the change of UNESCO's director it would not return to the organisation means that the presence of Mr. M'bow at the head of UNESCO was not the problem that caused the U.S. to withdraw. It is clear now that Washington's withdrawal was in protest against UNESCO's neutrality and its refusal to succumb to blackmail and pressure.

Al Dustour: Inviting Arab leaders

AS the time for the extraordinary summit meeting approaches, King Hussein's envoys continue their tour of Arab capitals delivering messages containing formal invitations for Arab leaders to take part in the coming meeting in Amman. The prevailing opportune situation in the Arab World and the improvement in relations among Arab countries is a real cause for satisfaction, and augur well for the outcome of the coming meeting. A favourable atmosphere at the summit is bound to yield positive results and constructive steps towards safeguarding Arab interests. Jordan has been exerting strenuous efforts for the sake of making the coming summit a real success and fulfilling the aspirations of the Arab masses. For this to happen, all side differences and disputes should end, and all misunderstandings must be shelved for the sake of serving the common causes. The coming summit looks to be the most important event in the Arab World in view of the serious developments the Middle East and the Gulf regions are witnessing at the moment. We look to the coming summit with hope, and we believe that the meeting of Arab leaders around one table will usher in a new stage in inter-Arab relations and open a new chapter in constructive work that would benefit all Arab countries.

Sawt Al Shabab: Shultz fails

DURING his visit to Israel, U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz came to realise the differences between the Likud and Labour parties in the present coalition government on the idea of a international conference. But Shultz proved unable so far to criticise Israel's intransigence and its reluctance to take steps towards a lasting settlement for the Middle East problem. Shultz proved also unable to take any step towards changing Washington's own position with regard to the proposed conference. If any change in Israel's position is to take place it must be instigated by Washington and if Shultz's present tour of the region is to succeed it should be based on a solid and practical plan for ending the Arab-Israeli conflict. Israel believes that peace is harmful to its existence, and therefore continues to carry out plans that run contrary to the course of peace. Therefore, Washington should free itself from Israel's formula and from Israeli allegations that its security is threatened and that it requires more weapons to protect itself. Washington should take a more practical and positive stand with regard to the problem, especially as it realises too well the Arab countries' position and their endeavours to implement Security Council Resolution 242 that seeks to establish peace in the region.

The struggle for food security in the Middle East

By Hugh Davies

HOPES for food self-sufficiency for the Middle East are founded on the triple obstacle of commodity food surpluses, subsidised production in exporting countries and the blow dealt to the region's development drive by the oil revenue crash.

New estimates prepared by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) show the Middle East's dependence on food imports is again on the rise. In value terms, agricultural imports of 20 Middle East countries may reach a total \$30,000 million in 1987, compared with \$27,000 million — equivalent to 30 per cent of regional export earnings — one year earlier.

The dream of generation of Middle East planners of achieving regional food security is evaporating amid evidence that such a programme is too expensive and essentially unviable. Instead, countries continue to rely on a hand-to-mouth policy of buying food when required on the world market.

USDA says grain imports will total 48 million tonnes in 1987, more than double the amount imported by the Soviet Union. Despite some impressive achievements in raising food production in several states, notably Saudi Arabian wheat production, it is now widely recognised that Middle East food self-sufficiency is unlikely ever to be achieved except in some minor commodities.

Heavy subsidies

No Middle East state has the

resources to match the Saudi grain production subsidies policy, which involves paying guaranteed purchase prices of \$533 a tonne for wheat and \$267 a tonne for barley. It has been estimated that in 1987 Saudi Arabia will pay farmers more than \$1,300 million for a wheat harvest of 2.5 million tonnes, which it could have bought on the world market for less than \$250 million.

Most Middle East states have continued to meet their grain shortfalls by relying on the world market. Even in Saudi Arabia, where much has been made of the increase in wheat production, \$4,600 million was spent on food imports in 1986, making it easily the region's largest importer.

The cost of increasing domestic production is high and the political security afforded by self-sufficiency or strategic stocks has proved too costly for most states.

While concentrating on trimming internal food subsidies and increasing the role of private farmers, USDA says Egypt has allowed food stocks to fall to dangerously low levels. Stocks represented 17 per cent of utilisation in 1980. By 1987, they were down to 4.5 per cent of the 9 million tonnes of grain used.

Egypt's 400,000 tonnes of modern grain storage capacity is soon to be augmented through a U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) agreement. Silos will be built on the Red Sea coast and at Alexandria in return for Egyptian purchases of surplus American grain in the U.S. Export Enhancement Programme.

Makeshift

Much of the grain stored in

Egypt in the early 1980s, as in many countries in the region, was kept in makeshift units in the desert. There is now a considerable drive throughout the region to improve storage, although this is aimed at increasing efficiency rather than holding building

strategic stocks. USDA estimates that contracts worth \$600 million - \$1,000 million will be offered in 1988 for food storage facilities throughout the region. More than \$500 million worth are expected to be signed in 1987.

The Middle East grain stores

SIGNIFICANT food reserves are available only in Saudi Arabia. Iran and Iraq. Saudi Arabia has built up more than 4.5 million tonnes of grain storage capacity, largely to cope with the subsidy-led growth in wheat output rather than as a strategic regional reserve. The kingdom also has 200,000 tonnes of cold storage capacity for livestock and dairy produce — commodities that are subject to supply fluctuations.

Iraq has the capacity to store more than 4 million tonnes of grain. Much of the capacity is new, built in response to war conditions and also to its much improved harvest, which is expected to exceed 7 million tonnes again this year. Turkish contractors have built much of the new capacity on the back of an oil barter deal.

Iraq, which is highly dependent on grain supplies through Syria and Turkey, has also had to build up its storage to cope with the uncertainties of the Gulf war. It has 1.5 million tonnes of storage capacity, mostly new and built to high standards.

Down the Gulf, Oman has particularly good facilities and sometimes stores grain on contract for the UAE. In addition to 60,000 tonnes of grain stores, Oman's Public Authority for Marketing Agricultural Produce is building 18 cold storage collection and distribution centres. By contrast, the UAE, like Kuwait and Jordan, is growing more dependent on Saudi Arabia for both storage and supply.

In 1985, the GCC commissioned a study from the World Bank and several private consultants into the cost of setting up an organisation to control the storage of up to 10-15 months' strategic food reserves for members. The study concluded that the scheme — costed at several billion dollars — was not worthwhile, given the many transhipment points for GCC imports and the reduced likelihood of a grain embargo following the failure of the U.S. embargo of the Soviet Union in 1979. Any serious decision on these findings were pre-empted by the oil price collapse, and plans for the organisation were shelved.

Many governments in the region are increasing investment in agriculture and showing greater flexibility in their agricultural policies. But food import bills are still likely to increase as populations grow and tastes become more expensive. USDA estimates they will total about \$30,000 million in 1987. Without low world food prices and domestic curbs caused by foreign exchange shortages, the estimated figure might have been much higher.

However, set-aside schemes in the U.S. and similar production curbs in Europe cannot be viewed with great relish by Middle East grain buyers, who benefit considerably from continued global overproduction. The Middle East economies will remain dependent on grain imports for many years to come. Any firming of prices is bound to be a source of worry as it would only emphasise how far from self-sufficiency they are — Middle East Economic Digest, London.

Grain prices in 1987

(S a tonne)

Saudi guaranteed price
Milling wheat 533
Barley 267

Jordanian guaranteed price
Milling wheat 417

Market price
Milling wheat 75-100 fob
Feed wheat 60-80 fob
Barley 60-65 fob
Rice (Thai grade B) 250-300 fob

Prices differ from quoted export prices as they are covered by subsidy programmes from the main exporters. The price obtained varies considerably, depending on the purchasing country and its geopolitical position.

Deng leaves legacy of great change, daunting problems

By Jim Abrams

The Associated Press

BEIJING — Deng Xiaoping will take a step back from centre stage in Chinese politics this month, leaving his successors a nation that has prospered under his innovations but is still wracked by social and economic problems.

Deng, 83, is expected to give up his seat on the five-man politburo standing committee, the summit of power in China, and relinquish at least one other post when the 13th national Communist Party Congress convenes Oct. 25.

Deng will continue to exert strong influence over policy. But he seems intent on easing his own responsibilities, and, as part of the theme of rejuvenation to dominate the congress, easing out his fellow aging revolutionaries who have hindered his far-reaching economic and political reforms as well.

Those reforms, now being pursued to various degrees by the Soviet Union and other Socialist nations, have brought new vigour to this nation of 1 billion by replacing unwieldy central planning with production according to market demand.

They have also given the Chinese people a respite from decades of political upheaval caused by the egalitarian visions of Mao Tse-Tung.

Since Deng, a prime victim of Mao's 1966-76 cultural revolution, rose to power at the end of the 1970s, China has doubled its

gross national product. Since 1980, per capita income in rural areas, the prime beneficiaries of Deng's market-oriented policies, has risen from 134 to 424 yuan (\$36 to \$115) a year. In cities, income per person jumped from 316 to 828 yuan (\$83 to \$223).

Deng dismantled the communes, replacing them with a system in which 98 per cent of farm households have contracts with the state and are free to grow whatever they want beyond those contracts.

They sell produce to 67,000 free markets around the country that supply more than half the food in some cities and offer a wide selection of items in a nation that once subsisted on cabbage through the winter months.

In pre-Deng days, the "four major items" were a bike, sewing machine, watch and transistor radio. Now, the upwardly mobile Chinese family demands a refrigerator, colour TV, washing machine and stereo.

In industry, state-monopolised products have been reduced from 256 to 26 and the number of goods controlled by the ministry of commerce from 188 to 22.

More than half of state-owned enterprises have implemented some kind of responsibility system where the manager has the authority to make decisions on production, personnel changes and wages.

Deng's government has managed to move 70 million of the 800 million people in the country

side off the farms and into rural industries, relieving the strains of excess farm population and creating a vital new force in the economy.

It has also encouraged the activities of 18 million private entrepreneurs running street-side food stalls, repair shops, small restaurants and hotels.

The government is trying out such capitalist institutions as stock markets, private housing, labour contracts, land sales, leasing and semi-autonomous banks.

The party congress will pledge absolute support for and celebrate the successes of this grand experiment. But it is also certain to touch on some of the enormous problems the reforms have ignored or created.

China remains one of the poorest nations on earth. Although 400 million people have escaped poverty since 1979, 100 million still live below the poverty line set at less than 200 yuan (\$54) a person annually. About 40 million still lack adequate food and clothing.

Wang Xingbang, an agriculture leader in western Gansu Province, one of China's poorest, said in an interview that the barren area has had 21 droughts in the last 28 years, but only one-tenth of the land is irrigated.

His goals are modest — "in the past three years we stopped the human mistakes of cutting trees and overcultivation. In the next five we hope to solve the food and clothing problem."

A quarter of urban residents

have inadequate housing, even by Chinese standards. Thirty per cent have no kitchens, 27 per cent no running water and two-thirds are without private toilets.

The government last year said education will be compulsory through the ninth grade, but acknowledged that it may take decades before all Chinese receive a basic education. The education ministry puts the number of illiterates at 200 million.

Partly as a result of the reforms, grain production has stagnated, a major worry in a nation where tens of thousands starved to death only 25 years ago. Farmers can now make more growing vegetables for private markets than selling grain to the state, and the nation is losing 500,000 hectares of land every year to construction, desertification and misuse.

Speakers at the congress will rail against the scourges of bureaucracy and corruption endemic to Chinese life.

The People's Daily (Renmin Ribao), mouthpiece of the party, complained this summer that "the public servants have made

themselves into masters ... They even turn the power they serve into an instrument to extort and make things difficult for the peasants."

Cases of economic crime, many involving local officials, were up 55 per cent last year to 78,000. The state auditing administration said in June that "violations of economic laws and regulations, corruption, fraud and waste have been up to such a serious degree that they are affecting economic reforms."

The authoritative Beijing Review said in September that 450 lives had been lost and 660 million yuan (\$180 million) squandered as a result of bureaucratic negligence in 1987. The forestry minister was sacked in June for his incompetent handling of a catastrophic forest fire that killed 193.

The official press reports cases such as that of the factory that had to be closed after 360 different government offices before importing \$2 million worth of equipment. The "back door," or personal contacts, is often the only way to get theatre tickets, an apartment, a new refrigerator or a passport.

Deng has made progress in introducing a consistent legal system, but abuses abound. The supreme people's procuratorate, or prosecutor's office, said there were 2,000 cases of human rights violations through June, up 13 per cent, including extracting confessions by torture, illegal custody and false accusations.

But ultimate power remains with the party, and appeals for more political rights, such as occurred in last winter's pro-democracy student demonstrations, are quickly put down with pronouncements that Western-style democracy has no place in Socialist China.

Premier and acting party leader Zhao Ziyang, in a recent interview with the American television network NBC emphasised that "if there were no Socialist system, there would be no stability and unity in the country and the country would be in havoc."

But China's system, which it now calls "the initial stage of Socialism," is certain to face further stresses as Deng's reforms and the open door policy mature.

Austria faces the end of social partnership

A special relationship between unions and government in Austria has provided years of social peace. Times are changing and it looks as if this cosy consensus has had its day. Judy Dempsey reports.

VIENNA — Austria's trade unions held their 11th congress in Vienna recently against a background of new economic and social problems which will almost certainly raise many questions about the nature of the traditional and special relationship between the government and the unions.

This special relationship, known as the "social partnership," provided years of social peace in Austria. In the past, governments and trade unions, rather than risk any forms of conflict, built a relationship based largely on consensus and compromise.

One of the bricks of the relationship, particularly during the leadership of the Socialist chancellor, Mr. Bruno Kreisky, was that the government would protect the workforce against unemployment. The cost for maintaining that promise led to increasing subsidies for the state-run industries, the bulk of which are located in the heavy industry sector.

As the trade unions convened, the growing consensus was that the days

'Deregulation of aviation industry democratises air travel; regionalisation is key to Third World airlines' success'

By Ali Ghandour

The following is the text of a speech, delivered by Mr. Ghandour, chairman of the board and Chief Executive Officer of Royal Jordanian Airlines to the second annual transportation conference (airlines, railroads, trucking and shipping) which took place in Washington Oct. 7-9, 1987.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

THANK you very much for inviting me to be your principal speaker today. It is a great honour that I could not decline and a splendid opportunity that I did not wish to miss. Moreover, it is a tribute to the aviation industry to which I belong and to Jordan the country that I represent. I am exceedingly grateful to Salomon Brothers, the doyen of investment banking worldwide, for having included the Third World in your agenda. We have been ignored for too long, and Salomon Brothers' worthy initiative sets the example and the pace for similar great institutions to follow suit. In our pursuit of world stability, peace and prosperity we must per force address the issues at hand within a global context.

I am immensely pleased to be in the company of distinguished men and women, and I am dazzled and dazed by such great display of financial and brain power. I also enjoy the look of radiant faces and as anyone might expect or suspect we are basking in the glory of a 5-year long economic growth and record-breaking stock markets in New York, London, Tokyo, Paris and Madrid to name only a few. I share your enthusiasm and your optimism and I am fortunate to be speaking to you at this time and from a vantage point too.

International air transport is a dynamic, complex and volatile system. It has become volatile since U.S. deregulation in 1978, but shows signs of settling down notwithstanding the new challenges that are now being presented in fields other than those traditional ones of capacity limitation, frequency determination and fare setting which constraints have been eliminated in some major theatres of operation and in the process of fading in others.

IATA's multilateral system for fare setting in the immediate post-war years worked well and was not challenged. The level of fares had not yet become an issue and was not considered as a constraint to the development of the air travel market. There were other factors at play: The state-of-the-art in aircraft manufacturing had not developed to its full potential as we know it today, balance of payments problems for the greater part of the world resulting in foreign exchange controls which impeded international travel, and low levels of economic activity and well-being. The air travel market then catered for business and leisure travellers who had been insensitive to price. The Americans dominated the leisure market because they were at the time the only people who could afford to travel without restrictions and were attracted to various parts of the world by a low general level of prices and exceptionally favourable exchange rates to the dollar. Within these given parameters it was obvious, as industry sources claimed, that fares were agreed upon multilaterally with an eye on cost rather than on growth. It is open to question as to whether fares were in the final analysis cost-related because it begot the question as to whose cost and what cost. I had argued at the time that in spite of the elaborate machinery which existed for the purpose, fares were set by rule-of-thumb taking into account the views and objections of all parties concerned. Consequently, fares were determined subjectively and ended up higher than they would otherwise have obtained under a more competitive environment. Paradoxically enough, everybody seemed to be quite happy. The least efficient carriers felt comfortable with a fare which they thought afforded them protection and least-cost carriers stood up to reap undue gains. Little wonder that the airlines flew the friendly skies of the world at 50 per cent load factors and felt complacent. It might not have occurred to them that they were flying their aircraft half-empty but fuel was selling at 13 cents per U.S. gallon and consumerism had not raised its head. Multilateralism for all its convenience spawned protectionism indiscriminately and without paying due regard to the respective properties of dynamic and stagnant markets. There was no talk of propriety of IATA's actions in this respect. After all, as I had earlier mentioned, the governments concerned unwittingly colluded to endorse the measures so taken.

The final outcome of the Chicago conference was "the Chicago Convention," which is rightly hailed as a milestone in the annals of international civil aviation, but since the conference did not result in a multilateral solution to the problems of deciding on a means of exchanging commercial rights, it became necessary for countries desiring air service between their territories to agree to exchange commercial air rights through bilateral negotiations. Representatives from Great Britain and the United States met in Bermuda in 1946 to exchange operating rights between the two nations. The Bermuda agreement resulted in the famous "five freedoms" of the air which set the pattern for dealing in civil aviation amongst sovereign states. So it came to pass that in 1946 the United States obtained satisfaction on the liberalisation of capacities and gave way on fares.

It is obvious that the United States has reluctantly compromised its principles of *laissez-faire* in the interests of coming to terms with the rest of the world. The United States has been charged erroneously I think, that its drive for a deregulated aviation environment in the post-war years stemmed not as much from its

adherence to the principles of free trade but because it had singularly emerged from the war well equipped with the necessary aircraft, experience and finance to dominate. One has only to look at the long history and record of U.S. anti-trust legislation — and enforcement — to give the lie to such a proposition. The American attitude has always been in sharp contrast with the abstruse thinking of the British. It is perhaps worth recalling that negotiations for the North Atlantic route, begun as early as 1929, had resulted in preliminary agreements to offer service twice a week between the United States and England. However, the British insisted that Pan American could not offer the service until such time that a British carrier could also offer similar service. Since the British did not possess a commercial aircraft capable of flying the North Atlantic, service was delayed. (This happened at a time when the memory of Adam Smith was very much alive and respectable and his book, "The Wealth of Nations," was being read in political economy at British universities, but British mercantilism had overshadowed good common sense).

At this juncture, it is well to remember that while the exchange of international traffic rights of commercial civil aviation and regulation of capacities and frequencies was left to Bermudite agreements, the function of setting rates on international routes was vested in IATA, our trade association, which was formally established in Havana in 1945. There were two most important provisions in the setting of fares: (1) A proposed tariff had to be approved unanimously by all the members, and (2) the approved tariff was still subject to the approval of the aeronautical agency of each of the member nations that would be affected.

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billion dollars of public welfare worldwide is going to result from reduced air fares. This consumers' surplus whether or not of this magnitude is important because when the economies of the world are plagued by double-digit inflation that has become a worldwide phenomenon the release of purchasing power resulting from decreased fares will add to the consumers' discretionary income and help defray hotel and food costs, etc., that have risen out of all proportion, thus promoting international travel. That was back in 1980.

Today, the U.S. action is viewed as having brought about the democratisation of air travel. It is not without significance that the global tide of tourism reaches 340 million travellers a year, from the Amazon to Antarctica, Burma to Belize, the slopes of Mount Everest to the wilds of Mongolia so much so that concern is now being voiced about the adverse impact of such horrendous and widespread dimension of tourist movement on ecology in various parts of the world.

I have expressed my view on previous occasions that the U.S. action is irreversible in spite of the fact that the deregulated environment, which is tantamount to free exit and free entry, has given rise to concentration of ownership (oligopoly) and the emergence of the megacarriers. Because the U.S. is able and willing to deal with predatory actions that might arise and its historic record of enforcing com-

The pendulum of fortune and misfortune for our industry swings with booms and recessions, respectively, and that to my mind even the managed economies of the world have not been able to tame the economic cycles which result in the upsurge and downturn in the level of economic activity of which air transport forms an integral part but has no direct control over it.

petition in various industries is unassimilable, I do not foresee the U.S. retracting back towards regulation. In Europe the reaction to the extra-territoriality of U.S. deregulation was one of vacillation. From cold to warm to lukewarm. In their initial hostile reaction which was eventually toned down by a sense of pragmatism, the European airlines had not realised, nor did they wish to admit, that the competitive provisions of the Treaty of Rome applied to civil air transport too. In the process, the Europeans sought — and achieved — a *modus vivendi* which led in a piecemeal fashion to a liberalised environment starting with the U.K.-Holland air agreement. The trend is somewhat being threatened now because of (a) fear of U.S. domina-



I have always been an ardent supporter of U.S. deregulation

(b) intra-European considerations whereby already well-entrenched European carriers seem to resist encroachment. In my view, the Europeans are in both instances fighting a rear-guard action. The trend towards liberalisation may become subject to delaying tactics, but liberalisation itself has become a strategic objective and will in the end prevail. The trend towards privatisation in Europe will provide an added impetus to an expanding liberalised aviation environment. Trans-national interdependence is beyond question, and collaborative efforts by Europe's smaller airlines such as the Sabena/SAS/Finair discussions, are already in evidence. In Europe, because of necessity, the trend may be to cross-border amalgamations, collaborations and alliances. While Europe may be seen as posited against the United States and vice versa and in my opinion unjustifiably so, the industry is poised to enter the next consolidation phase — namely, global airline mergers. And in America it is strongly believed that in the near future one or more U.S. airlines will be created as a result of necessity, the trend may be to cross-border amalgamations, collaborations and alliances. While Europe may be seen as posited against the United States and vice versa and in my opinion unjustifiably so, the industry is poised to enter the next consolidation phase — namely, global airline mergers. And in America it is strongly believed that in the near future one or more U.S. airlines will be created as a result of necessity, the trend may be to cross-border amalgamations, collaborations and alliances. While Europe may be seen as posited against the United States and vice versa and in my opinion unjustifiably so, the industry is poised to enter the next consolidation phase — namely, global airline mergers. 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Scotland gains berth in world youth football quarterfinals

SANTIAGO, Chile (Agencies) — Scotland, down to 10 men for much of the game, came from behind to force a 2-2 draw with Colombia and claim a berth in the quarter-finals of the Sixth World Youth Football Championship, in a dramatic qualifying group match.

The goals all came in a thrilling second half with star striker Guerrero scoring twice for the South American champions and Wright and McLeod replying for Scotland in their Group 'C' match in the port town of Valparaiso on Sunday.

Italy clinched a place in the last eight by defeating Nigeria 2-0 in a Group 'B' game in Concepcion on Sunday, while Bulgaria took the necessary two points off Saudi Arabia to move through from Group 'D' in Mafagasta.

Yugoslavia, 4-1 victors over Togo on Sunday, were already

assured of qualifying from Group 'A' in Santiago, with hosts Chile taking the second place.

East Germany, Brazil and West Germany, victors in their group matches on Saturday, complete the quarter-final line-up of the under-21 tournament.

In the most stirring match seen so far in the 16-nation tournament, Colombia appeared to have booked their passage into the quarters after Guerrero fired them into a 2-0 lead.

Picking up the ball just inside the Scottish half, the striker beat two players to score with a

powerful left-footed drive from the edge of the penalty area after 48 minutes.

Ten minutes later, he scored on a fiercely struck free kick from outside the area which Scottish goalkeeper Main failed to hold.

Although, Scotland struck back almost immediately through Wright who vollied in a cross from the right, their hopes of a recovery appeared to have been dashed when the striker was sent off for a foul on the Colombian goalkeeper after 68 minutes.

The Scots were presented with an equaliser against the run of play when a Colombian defender handled the ball in the area in one of the few Scottish attacks. McLeod accepted the gift with a clinically taken penalty kick.

In the final tense minutes,

Main more than made up for his earlier error with a series of tumbling saves as the Colombians besieged the Scottish goal.

Scotland now travels to Antofagasta for a quarter-final encounter with West Germany, who topped the group.

In Concepcion, where defending champions Brazil clinched their place with a tense 1-0 win over Canada on Saturday, two defensive errors by the Nigerians gave Italy a 2-0 win.

The Nigerians, third in Moscow in the 1985 Championship, were the more dangerous side in the opening minutes.

But Carrara headed Italy into the lead in the 22nd minute after finding himself unmarked in the penalty area, and Melli added a second just two minutes later after also being left unattended in front of the African goal.

Powerful left-footed drive from the edge of the penalty area after 48 minutes.

Japan in medal quest at world gymnastics tourney

ROTTERDAM (R) — National champion Koichi Mizushima built up Japan's hopes of a team medal at the World Gymnastics Championships with a consistently impressive performance on the opening day of competition on Monday.

Mizushima, Asian Games bronze medallist on the horizontal bar and parallel bars last year, scored nothing less than 9.7 in the compulsory exercises which count towards the team contest.

Japan, one of the first teams performing in the Ahoy Arena, scored a total 287.8 points but must wait until Tuesday, when the giants of the competition enter the fray, to know if they are on course for a medal.

World champions the Soviet Union and the silver and bronze medalists from 1985, China and East Germany, make their first appearance here on Tuesday, the second day of compulsory exercises.

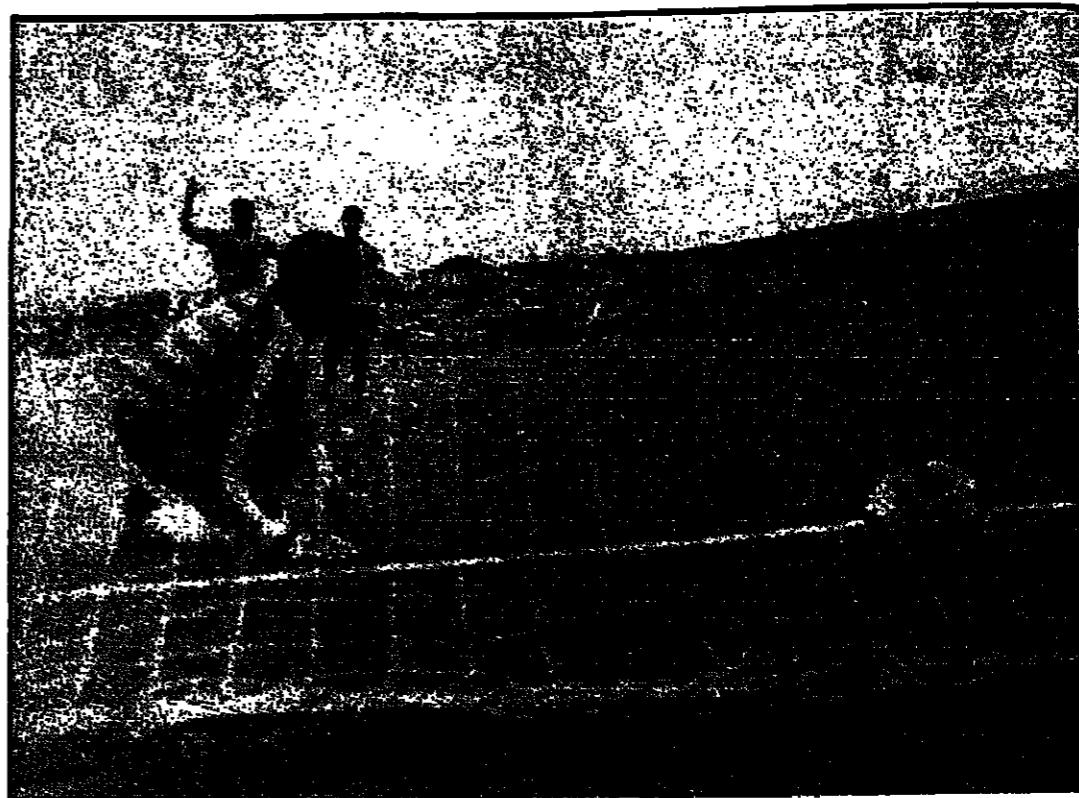
Marks from the event will be added to scores in the optional exercises on Wednesday and Thursday to decide the team-medals and the 36 gymnasts qualifying for the individual all-around competition.

Japan, fourth at the last world championships in Montreal and disappointing at the Asian Games when they failed to win a gold or silver medal, have declared their determination to win the bronze men's team medal here.

Mizushima, a student, scored

9.8 on the rings and in the floor exercises to put him in the early lead in the individual standings.

South Korea's Kwon Soon-Seong and Park Jong-Hoon, who both beat triple Olympic gold medalist Li Ning of China to win first and second place on the parallel bars at the Asian Games in Seoul, failed to live up to expectations as the team collected only 281.65 points in the compulsory exercises.



DECISIVE NETTING: The ball rests inside Al Hussein club net after a kick by Al Faisali defender Khalid Sa'd just before the final whistle in the Jordan Cup final played on Monday. Al Faisali edged Al Hussein team with a 2-1 score to win the Jordan Cup Championship. The team's captain Ibrahim Mustafa received the cup from Youth Minister Eid Dahiyat to the cheers of a capacity crowd of 25,000 at Al Hussein stadium. (Photo by Yousef Al 'Allan)

Minnesota's march to St. Louis: a rare case for making history

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — Holler "Four" and head for cover. The Minnesota Twins are on their way to St. Louis, two games up in the World Series and coasting along like no other postseason team in history.

"We're on a roll now," Twins shortstop Greg Gagne said. "Hopefully, we can carry it through... We've got some confidence going into St. Louis."

The Twins won the first two games of the World Series, 10-1 Saturday night and 8-4 Sunday night — scoring a total of 13 runs in the fourth innings of the two games. They had seven runs in the fourth inning of game 1, six in the same inning of game 2.

"When I go to the racetrack tomorrow, I'm going to play 4," Twins manager Tom Kelly said. With this victory, the Twins not

only backed the Cardinals into a corner, they also became the first team in major-league history to score five or more runs in seven consecutive postseason games.

The Twins defeated the Detroit Tigers in a five-game American League playoff. Their winning scores were 8-5, 6-3, 5-3 and 9-5. They lost game 3, 7-6.

Game 3 is scheduled for Tuesday night at Busch Stadium with Rookie Les Straker, 8-10, going for Minnesota against veteran John Tudor, 10-2. Tudor will try to stop St. Louis' five-game World Series losing streak, dating back to 1985, during which the Cardinals have been outscored 37-17.

Minnesota's Bert Blyleven got the win, allowing two runs on six hits through seven innings and striking out eight. The Twins,

meanwhile, sent 11 men to the plate and chased St. Louis' starter, Danny Cox, in the fourth inning.

This was an intimate little party of 55,257 whistle-blowing, hand-waving, rock-and-roll singing fans, the largest crowd to ever see a baseball game in the state of Minnesota.

When songs like "Twist and Shout," "My Baby does the Hanky-Panky," and "Born to Be Wild," were played over the metronome public address system, fans waved their Homer-hankies in time to the music, looking like so many herons bobbing their heads in unison.

They look pretty good to me," Cardinals manager Whitey Herzog said of the Twins. "I saw them play Detroit, and they are a hot baseball. We haven't had many big innings against us all year, and we've given up 13 runs in the fourth inning of the last two days."

Of the 37 teams that have gone down 2-0 in the World Series, only 10 have come back to win. That is the task facing Herzog's Cardinals.

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Indian troops reported in centre of Jaffna; Tigers offer surrender

COLOMBO, Sri Lanka (AP) — Indian peacekeeping forces, reinforced by troops flown in over the weekend, are battling Tamil rebels in the centre of Jaffna, Indian and Sri Lankan officials said Monday.

Meanwhile, a Sri Lankan source said a leader of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam, the strongest Tamil militia, had offered to meet the Indian demand of unconditional surrender. An Indian spokesman could not confirm the report.

Indian troops on Sunday advanced 600 metres north from a fort on the outskirts of Jaffna and captured the main bus terminal in the middle of the city, according to Sri Lankan military officials and an Indian diplomat. All spoke on condition of not being identified.

It was the first time Indian troops had reached the centre of Jaffna in their 10-day-old offensive to dislodge the Tigers.

The Indian diplomat said ex-

meets India's demand for unconditional surrender.

The official, who insisted on not being identified, said Mr. Mahendravajah's note went to Indian headquarters at Palali, north of Jaffna, and to the Sri Lankan army.

The note said the Tamils want peace for Deepavali, the Hindu festival of lights on Wednesday, the official said.

An official at the Indian High Commission, or embassy, said the Indians were cremating bodies of civilians killed in the fighting. They said they did not have casualty figures.

Indian officials said Sunday that about 520 Tamil rebels and more than 100 Indian troops had been killed since the beginning of the offensive on Oct. 10.

A Sri Lankan military official said Monday that Gopalaraja Mahendravajah, the Tigers' second-in-command, had sent a message expressing willingness to

plosives, weapons and ammunition were captured. But the diplomat stressed that the Tigers have several headquarters and that the Indians have not captured the group's headquarters inside Jaffna.

Jaffna, 300 kilometres north of Colombo, is the Tigers' chief stronghold.

The Tigers have vowed to fight to the last man in their quest for an independent Tamil state.

Tamils, who comprise 18 per cent of Sri Lanka's 16 million people, say they are discriminated against by the Sinhalese majority, which controls the government and makes up 75 per cent of the country's population.

The majority of Sinhalese are Buddhist, while the Tamils are mostly Hindu. But, Sinhalese and Tamils say religion is not the major factor in the rift. They cite ethnic and language divisions as more important.

Laurel 'ready' to take over if army topples Aquino

MANILA (Agencies) — Rebels Philippines Vice-President Salvador Laurel on Monday declared his readiness to become president if the army toppled Corazon Aquino.

In a speech to the Foreign Correspondents Association of the Philippines, Mr. Laurel, who resigned as foreign minister last month, also said he wanted Mrs. Aquino's government to succeed and cast doubt on threats by the United States to cut off aid if she was ousted in a coup.

Mr. Laurel said he would refuse to be a figurehead if the military forced out Mrs. Aquino and offered him the presidency.

"It is different altogether if, for

instance, after taking over they go back to the barracks."

Mr. Laurel added: "I would like to see this government succeed" but said Mrs. Aquino should reconcile with all her opponents, including those who have rebelled against her.

He said Mrs. Aquino would have to make decisive moves to end political turmoil in the country and added that she might not last until the end of her term in 1992 if she makes mistakes.

Mr. Laurel said Monday he and Senator Juan Ponce Enrile were forming a "political alliance" to support candidates in the Jan. 18 local elections, but not to oppose the president.

COLUMNS 7 & 8

Iraqi census reveals centenarians

BAGHDAD (R) — The oldest person found during Iraq's most extensive census ever was a woman aged 115 years, the Iraqi news agency said. It said she was found by officials making door-to-door calls in the western town of Anbar, while a man and a woman both aged 107 were reported in the holy city of Karbala. The census involved a nine-hour curfew and 170,000 government workers. Planning Minister Sami Majid Faraj was quoted by the agency as saying the census had been successful and the results would be announced later. Officials had predicted before the count a population of over 16 million, an increase of some four million over the last 1977 census.

431 books taken off Seoul blacklist

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — More than 430 books were taken off a government blacklist Monday as part of South Korea's current democratic reforms, the Culture and Information Ministry said. Ministry officials said the government lifted restrictions on 431 of 650 books by Korean and foreign authors. The production and public distribution of the books had been banned as detrimental to society and national security. Some of the books had been popular among dissidents and anti-government students. Ministry officials said restrictions on 181 books would remain because of what authorities called their advocacy of Communism or revolution, and that 38 other books would be given further consideration. Critics had contended that the government imposed strict controls on books in an effort to check dissemination of anti-government views and in violation of freedom of expression.

Home brewing gives Soviets a headache

MOSCOW (R) — A sharp rise in Soviet sugar consumption since the start of the Kremlin's anti-alcohol drive indicates home-brewing is costing the state 20 billion roubles (\$32 billion) in lost vodka sales, Pravda said on Monday. The Communist Party newspaper said sugar sales had increased by one million tonnes a year, enough to be turned into two billion bottles of moonshine. At current vodka prices of 10 roubles (\$16) a bottle, it said, this meant illicit alcohol consumption had reached the equivalent of 20 billion roubles (\$32 billion) a year, or annual revenues from vodka sales before the May 1985 anti-alcohol decree. "Official statistics show a reduction in consumption of vodka, but this is a deceptive statistic — it does not count home-brew," Pravda said. "The epidemic first engulfed the villages and has now also firmly settled into cities, where the availability of natural gas, running water and privacy has made it much easier."

Dead cat at issue in court battle

STOCKHOLM (R) — Two Swedish women are locked in a court battle over the appetite of a dead cat. Its former owner vowed on Sunday to appeal against a court ruling that she must pay a \$50 bill for cat food to another woman who bought her house and got the hungry feline into the bargain. "The truth shall prevail, no matter the cost," the former owner, who preferred to remain anonymous, told reporters. She said the house buyer had accepted custody of the cat, named Misian, as part of the deal. But the buyer, who took the case to court after Misian had devoured \$50 worth of food, says she had been promised reimbursement for feeding the cat until it could be put down. Misian went to its death two months before the trial in a district court at Hassleholm, a southern Swedish town, which also ordered the former owner to pay \$60 in costs.

Searcher 'finds' site of miracle

TEL AVIV (R) — Archaeologists believe they have identified the site where Jesus performed the miracle of the fish and loaves, the Jerusalem Post has said. Dr. Rami Arav of Haifa University's Golani Research Institute told the Post that Bethsaida was the third holiest Christian site in the Holy Land and the place where Jesus performed the loaves and fishes miracle, cured a blind man and walked on the water. Arav said archaeologists had been divided over the exact location of the site. "We believe we have settled the controversy," he told the Post, adding a major dig would begin at the site next January. The remains indicating the location were found three kilometres north of the Sea of Galilee at At Tell. The only miracle explicitly attributed to Bethsaida by scripture is the curing of the blind man, mentioned in the Book of Mark. Christian traditions vary on the settings of the other miracles that Arav linked to Bethsaida.

Singer gives glasses, shirts to UNESCO

TOKYO (AP) — Pop idol Michael Jackson on Monday wound up a month-long concert tour in Japan by donating for a charity auction some personal items, including T-shirts, a windbreaker and glasses he wore during concerts. "Michael Jackson gave us a total of 30 personalised items, some of which will be sent to us from the United States," said Tamaki Obana, secretary general of the Japan Federation of UNESCO Associations. The items are to be sold at an auction in Tokyo on Oct. 30 to raise funds to educate children in developing nations, she said. Sales of Jackson's personal items have raised thousands of dollars for charities in the United States. In late September, Jackson donated \$20,000 to the family of a 5-year-old boy who was kidnapped and murdered during his stay in Japan. Jackson's Japan tour began Sept. 9 and touched off a spell of "Michael fever." Tickets for his concerts were sold out hours after they went on sale. The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization promotes educational and cultural activities throughout the world.

Opera Hemingway debuts in Havana

MEXICO CITY (AP) — The debut of an opera about American author Ernest Hemingway by Soviet composer Yuri Kasarjan opened a lyrical art festival in Havana, the Cuban news agency Prensa Latina said Sunday. Kasarjan, an Armenian, said Hemingway inspired him because his "life and literary work demonstrated that the love for humanity is expressed not only with words but also giving all of oneself." Prensa Latina said in a dispatch received in Mexico City. Havana was chosen for the first performance Saturday because Hemingway spent some of his most productive years in Cuba, the agency quoted Kasarjan as saying. His novel, *The Old Man and the Sea*, is about a Cuban fisherman. Ten countries in addition to Cuba are participating in the 1st Havana International Festival of Lyric Art.

Homeless live in camp near Malibu

MALIBU, California (AP) — About 30 homeless people are camping near the oceanfront homes of celebrities Johnny Carson and Barbra Streisand, much to the dismay of some wealthy neighbours who feel threatened by them. "I sleep with an alarm and a gun under my pillow because of the situation," said resident Vivian Nelson. Tents, makeshift beds and treehouses fill a 2.5-acre (1-hectare) Eucalyptus Grove on pacific coast highway that local homeowners have dubbed "the jungle." "It's a horrible health hazard and a real fire hazard, but the police won't even go in there," said Judy Kennedy, a horse breeder who lives on a ranch nearby. "I'm sure a lot of these guys work hard in honest jobs all day, but they don't belong in my back yard." The camp is located 800 feet (245 metres) from the ocean and public showers. Most of the homeless are from Mexico, Guatemala and Costa Rica, and they spend their days looking for odd jobs they can do for residents. They scrounge food from garbage bins or buy it from a small store where actress Ali McGraw shops. The campsite is relatively safe, said Buford "Pops" Johnson, 62, of Kentucky, who has lived in the grove for a year. "There are fights, but no one really gets hurt and no one touches anyone else's stuff," Johnson said. "I don't think any of the boys in here steal. If they do, they're out."

Social Democrats slip in Swiss elections

BERN (R) — Prospects of a "Red-Green" power bloc emerging in Switzerland's parliamentary elections on Sunday were dashed as the left-of-centre Social Democrats became the biggest losers in a record-low poll.

Political commentators said projections assembled late on Sunday by Swiss Radio showed that the Green parties made only modest gains and far from a voting for a "Green" revolution, the Swiss cast their ballots for perceived stability.

The campaign was conducted in the shadow of the 1986 Chernobyl nuclear disaster in the

lower house, down seven from the last election in 1983, and 42 of the 46 seats in the upper house, down two.

The Green Party of Switzerland won 11 seats in the 200-seat lower house, up eight. But the Green Alliance, an environmental party with strong left-wing elements, and other Green groups together lost one seat.

"After all the talk of a Green wave, I think people were afraid the Greens might do too well," said Thomas Buechi, a Green Party member of the Zurich Council.

Together they are forecast to hold 159 seats in the 200-seat

2nd contra drug probe expanding

WASHINGTON (AP) — As Congress' major Iran-contra investigation winds to a close, a House panel is expanding its look at possible drug- and gun-running by the Nicaraguan rebels and charges that U.S. officials condoned the U.S. contra.

Representative William Hughes, chairman of the House Crime Subcommittee, said Friday that the panel is widening its probe of possible crimes, by and for the contras.

"We're developing some very troubling information," said Mr. Hughes, an opposition Democrat.

He said the investigation continues to focus on "narcotics trafficking and gun-running." He declined to elaborate.

The crime panel also continues to track allegations that federal officials, possibly including Attorney General Edwin Meese III, discouraged prosecution of the crimes, Mr. Hughes said. Mr. Meese has repeatedly denied the allegations.

The investigation by the crime panel has been overshadowed by the nationally televised investigation by Congress' Iran-contra panels.

The House and Senate committees are expected to release their final report late this month on secret U.S. arms sales to Iran and diversion of profits from those sales to the contra rebels.

Kim Young-Sam sets opposition convention date

SEOUL (R) — South Korea's opposition party chief Kim Young-Sam said on Monday his deeply divided movement would hold a national convention next month to name him as its presidential candidate.

He said the convention, the first free, direct presidential vote in 16 years.

In Pusan at the weekend, Kim Young-Sam drew a crowd which both witnesses and local media said numbered more than one million. Many journalists and political analysts called it the biggest turnout for a South Korean political rally since President Chun Doo Hwan came to power in 1980.

Buoyed by this success in the country's second largest city, Mr. Kim said he would push for the RDP to call its long-delayed national convention on Nov. 5 to endorse him as its official candidate.

The two Kims, joint founders of the Reunification Democratic Party (RDP), tried in vain to agree on a single candidate to

Salvadorean peace talks to continue

SAN SALVADOR, El Salvador (AP) — Rebels and government leaders will meet next week to continue discussions on a possible cease-fire, Monsignor Arturo Rivera Damas, the Archbishop of San Salvador, said Sunday.

Archbishop Rivera Damas, who has arranged and mediated talks aimed at ending eight years of civil war in the Central American country, said in his Sunday homily that the site for the meeting had not been confirmed but that it would be outside El Salvador.

The two sides are trying to meet a Nov. 7 deadline mandated by the peace pact for arranging ceasefires in El Salvador, Nicaragua and Guatemala, as well as amnesties, democratic reforms, and an end to outside aid to rebel forces.

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name him as its presidential candidate.

Mr. Kim said he would accept his appointment because all Fijians must face reality.

Mr. Ali said in a statement: "Most members of the Indian community are likely to spend their life here in Fiji. And when the dust has settled they will continue to make the contribution which they have made in the past."

"It is essential that some of us retain our links with the political process in the governmental system to ensure that they get a fair deal in the end."

New Zealand said on Monday it was immediately imposing a package of sanctions against Fiji in response to the country's change of status to a republic.

The measures end all military cooperation and cut economic aid. New Zealand will also not renew in March an agreement under which it supports the price of Fijian sugar.

The loss of aid and sugar supports will cost Fiji about 10 million dollars (\$6.5 million) a year.

Acting Prime Minister Geoffrey Palmer also told a news conference after a cabinet meeting that the government had asked High Commissioner (Ambassador) Rod Gates to return from Suva for discussions about other possible measures.

Prime Minister David Lange is in Hawaii on his way home from a meeting of Commonwealth leaders in Vancouver.

The package of measures was approved by the cabinet soon after Col. Rabuka staged his second coup. Implementation was postponed in the hope that Col. Rabuka might turn back from declaring a republic.

Mr. Palmer said the cabinet was happy with a statement from the Vancouver conference that Fiji's membership of the Commonwealth had lapsed.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES SHOREN AND OMAR SHARIF
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A CLASSIC CASE OF AVOIDANCE

Four clubs after his partner had raised hearts, then left it up to North to decide whether to go on. The latter was quite happy with four hearts.

The opening lead gave declarer an anxious moment — if West had a six-card suit, East would ruff away the ace. Even when East dropped the king, there was still work to do. Faced with two losers in each black suit, the only hope for the contract was to establish a long club while, in the process, keeping West off lead.

For that to succeed, East had to have both the king and queen of clubs — not likely in view of his opening bid. So at trick two declarer led a low club from dummy and, when East followed with a spade, he shot up with his ace. As the cards lie, declarer could establish the table's 13th club for a spade discard without surrendering the lead to West.

Observe that it would not have helped East to split his club honors at the second trick. Declarer would simply have allowed him to win, and then returned to dummy to lead another club toward his hand. Depending on whether East then rises with his honor or plays low, declarer would either win or permit East to hold the trick, achieving the same result.

A classic example of an avoidance play cropped up in an early round of the Bonsuom Cup team event at the recent 7th Bridge Olympiad. The declarer, New York options broker Ron Rubin, made no mistake.

Three no trump would have been an ideal contract, but it was not easy to reach after West's competitive weak jump response. Since he had something in reserve for his overall, Rubin tried a cue-bid of

alliance sources said in Islamabad on Sunday.

Neutral Sweden expressed willingness on Sunday to join U.S. oil magnate Armand Hammer's plans for an Afghan settlement, but declined to say whether it was prepared to lead an international peacekeeping force there.

Mr. Hammer, the 89-year-old head of Occidental Petroleum, has visited Kabul, Moscow and Islamabad in recent days in a one-man crusade to end the nine-year war between Afghan guerrillas and the Soviet-backed Kabul government.

He told Reuters in Islamabad that Sweden's deputy foreign minister had "indicated that Sweden would accept" a key role as leader of an international peacekeeping force in Afghanistan.

In his speech in Kabul, Mr. Najib, who on Saturday tightened his grip on the PDPA by purging supporters of his ousted predecessor Babrak Karmal, acknowledged there were